GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4823
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2007
SINO- SRI LANKAN AGREEMENT ON SEA HARBOUR
Pandey Dr. Laxminarayan;Tripathi Shri Chandramani

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has signed an agreement with Sri Lanka for developing a sea harbour at Humbantota;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the above step of China will increase its interference in the Indian territorial water;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) & (b) Government have seen press reports to this effect. The Sri Lanka Ports Authority and the Consortium of China Harbour Engineering Company Limited/Sino Hydro Corporation Limited reportedly signed a contract for development of the Hambantota Harbour on March 12, 2007 in Colombo.

(c) to (e) No. India exercises absolute sovereignty over its territorial waters.